

PROCLAMATION PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS WEEK

March 8-14, 2004

WHEREAS, problem gambling is a public health issue affecting millions of Americans of all ages, races and ethnic backgrounds with a significant cost to society and the economy; and

WHEREAS, numerous individuals, professionals and organizations in North Dakota have dedicated their efforts to increase public awareness of problem gambling, ensure the widespread availability of treatment for problem gamblers and their families, and to encourage research and programs for prevention and education; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Department of Human Services, the Council on Compulsive Gambling of North Dakota, Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota, and the Mental Health Association are partnering to promote the availability and effectiveness of treatment for problem gamblers and their families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 8-14, 2004, as **PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State